1	2
Kerala	711
Madhya Pradesh	3994
Maharashtra & Goa	14879
N.E. Region	1256
Orissa	143
Punjab & Himachal	2414
Rajasthan	1506
Tamilnadu	1537
Uttar Pradesh	1312
West Bengal	8617

Expenditure on Health Surgery

2297. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to meet the entire expenditure to be incurred on heart surgery from Prime Minister's relief fund or to provide free heart operation facilities to poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no scheme at present to meet the entire expenditure incurred on heart surgery or to provide free heart operation facilities to poor people. However, a scheme has recently been launched (NIAF) whereby the financial assistance would be given to patients, who belong to families living below poverty line, for undergoing specialised medical treatment for various life-threatening diseases, wherein cardiac diseases are also included. The details of this scheme have been given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

(a) National Illness Assistance Fund (NIAF) has been set up vide Ministry of Health & F.W. Resolution dated 13.1.97 which has been published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary) Part I Section-I) [No.9]. It has been provided in this scheme that every State/U.T. (with Legislature) may set up an Illness Assistance Fund which shall be a registered society. The donation received by this society from State Govt./UT Admn. will be supplemented by a Grant in aid from Central Govt. to the extent of 50% of the contribution made by the State Govt./UT subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 crores for states which have a larger proportion of population living below poverty line and Rs. 2 crores for other states/UTs. The poverty line shall be as defined by the Planning Commission. The fund could also be subscribed by individuals, corporate bodies and other National/International philanthropic organisations. The contribution received by this fund would be exempt from payment of income tax under Section 80(G) of Income Tax Act. The accounts of the society would be audited by AG of the State/UT every year.

This fund would release financial assistance to patients below poverty line in India suffering from life threatening diseases for undergoing medical treatment of any of the superspeciality Hospital/Institutes or other Govt./Private Hospitals participating in the scheme. The assistance will be in the form of a one time grant which will be released to the Medical superintendent of the Hospital, in which the treatment has been received.

A provision of Rs. 25 crores has been made in the budget grant of Ministry of Health & FW during 1996-97 for release of grant in aid to State/UT. A similar amount has been provided in the 1997-98 budget also.

It has also been decided that National Illness Assistance Fund should be set up with an initial donation from Ministry of Health & F.W of Rs. 5 crores. This fund would also be subscribed by Individuals corporate bodies and Non-corporate bodies. The contribution made to this fund will also be exempt from payment of Income-Tax under Section 80(G) of Income Tax Act. The management Committee of NIAF will be chaired by Union Health Minister. The NIAF will be a registered society and its accounts will be subject to audit by C & AG every year.

Whereas the quantum of financial assistance to a poor patient is less than Rs. 1.5 lakhs, the release will be done by the fund at the State/UT level and if the quantum of assistance is in excess of Rs. 1 5 lakhs in an individual case, the case will be recommended to NIAF at the Centre.

NIAF will decide about the budget outlay for grant of similar assistance to be released to such population living in the UTs without legislature.

(d) Applications for necessary assistance under this scheme can be addressed to the Illness Assistance Fund of the respective States/UTs or NIAF. The applicant has to apply to state Govt. to which he belongs alongwith the estimate of the expenditure of the illness from the Hospital where the treatment is being received or will be received and a certificate of his proof of income duly certified by the competent authority of the State. The state illness fund

will examine the case and will process it in case the expenditure is within Rs. 1.50 lakhs in each case. In case it exceeds this limit it will be forwarded to the Central Govt. along with their recommendations for processing the case under NIAF.

Allotment of Land to Social Institutions

2298. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allotted land to the social institutions and trusts on concessional rates;

(b) if so, the details of such allotment made in Delhi during the last three years;

(c) the details of such social institutions/trusts who have applied for allotment of land but no decision has been taken on their applications; and

(d) the time by which a final decision on such applications is likely to be taken and allotment of land is to be made to them?

The MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Allotment of land to social institutions is made at the concessional rates prescribed by the Government depending upon the categories of the institutions and activities thereof.

(b) During the preceeding three years allotments of land have been made in 8 cases by DDA and L&DO put together at concessional rates. The list of such institutions is enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) Allotment of land depends on availability and demand thereof. In cases where the request are accommodated, allotments are made and regret letters are issued by the Land Owning Agencies in other cases. No specific details in this regard, however, are maintained and the requests are disposed off at various levels case by case.

Statement

List of Institutions to whom Land Allotted on concesstional rates during the Last Three Years

1. Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam Charitable Trust (0.641 acres)
2. Kathak Kendra (2325.558 sq. mts.)
3. Delhi Symphony Society (760.534 sq. mts.)
4. Sant Nirankari Mandal.
5. Virendra Nath Jamuna Dass Charitable Trust.
6. B.R. Dhawan Mem. Charitable Trust.
7. Tagore Academy.
8. Children Medical Foundations.

[English]

Federal Bureau of Investigation Station in India

2299. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States has asked the Government of India permission to set up a 'declared' Federal Bureau of Investigation station in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b): No formal request has been received from the United States Government for permission to set up a separate office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in India.

(c): Does not arise.

Leprosy Eradication Centres

2300. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of leprosy eradication centres functioning in Madhya Pradesh particularly in tribal areas;

(b) the assistance provided by the Union Government to these centres during 1994, 1995 and 1996;

(c) whether these centres have also been receiving assistance from World Health Organisation; and the details of assistance received of these centres during the above period;

(d) whether free medicines are being provided to the patients in these centres; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme the number of units functioning in Madhya Pradesh including tribal areas are as under:-